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B-CPRO-7

PROGRAM TITLE: UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #512

ADVERTISER: SUSTAINING

AGENCY:

WRITER:

DAY & DATE: NOVEMBER 12, 1942 THURSDAY

TIME: BLUE .. 11:30 - 12:00 NOON

PRODUCTION NOTES

CHARACTERS

CAST

CAST:

BESS - KATHERINE CARD

MARY - LUCILE HUSTING

JERRY - JOHN LARKIN

JIM - HARVEY HAYS

SOUND

REMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:
This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

MUSIC: THEME

ANNOUNCER: There's an interesting little story going the rounds about some of our soldier boys stationed up there in the Aleutian Islands off Alaska. It shows pretty well, I think, the average American's love of trees. This is the story: On one of the barren, windswept islands, the troops have planted a single small tree. They put a strong fence all around and named it, of all things, the Aleutian National Forest. Surely, good humor and apparent light-heartedness must have attended the planting of this sapling, and yet we suspect that even though the soldiers laughed and joked at the planting ceremony, they were nevertheless deeply stirred. We like to think that this little tree standing there in an otherwise treeless spot of earth is helping to make them feel more truly at home, away from home....It shows how much the trees and forests mean to Americans...And now, let's see what's happening on the Pine Cone National Forest. At the Ranger Station we find Bess, Ranger Jim Robbins wife, talking things over with the local schoolma'am, Mary Halloway. They're waiting for Jim and his assistant Jerry Quick to come home to supper. Here they are...

BESS: (FADING IN) Yes, Mary, it's a race against time. That's what it is. Oh, I do hope they can get those trees into the ground before they die.

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers.

MUSIC: THEME

ANNOUNCER: There's an interesting little story going the rounds about some of our soldier boys stationed up there in the Aleutian Islands off Alaska. It shows pretty well, I think, the average American love of trees. This is the story: On one of the barren, windswept islands, the troops have planted a single small tree. They put a strong fence all around and named it, of all things, the Aleutian National Forest. Surely, good humor and appreciation of the light-heartedness must have attended the planting of this sapling, and yet we suspect that even though the soldiers laughed and joked at the planting ceremony, they were nevertheless deeply stirred. We like to think that this little tree standing there in an otherwise treeless spot of earth is helping to make them feel more truly at home, away from home...It shows how much the trees and forests mean to Americans...And now, let's see what's happening on the Pine Cone National Forest. At the Ranger Station we find Dean, Ranger Jim Robbins' wife, talking things over with the local postmaster, Mary Halloway. They're waiting for Jim and his assistant Jerry Gulick to come home to supper. Here they are...

DEAN: (FADING IN) Yes, Mary, it's a true spring time. That's what it is. Oh, I do hope they can get those trees into the ground before they dig.

MARY: Where did the trees come from, Mrs. Robbins? I understood there was to be almost a complete curtailment of production in the Forest Service nurseries for the duration of the war.

BESS: That's right, Mary. Only a few nurseries will be kept operating. But the trees that Jim and Jerry have now were already growing in the nursery.

MARY: I see. They'll either have to plant them now or they'll be wasted.

BESS: That's right. And Jim wants so badly to finish planting that Bull Ridge cut-over area. But there's nobody available now to help with the planting, you see, and....

MARY: I know. That's why Mr. Robbins and Jerry are working so hard trying to get the trees in the ground.

BESS: Yes. They're planting trees every minute they can spare. But the two of them and the few guards we have to help can't begin to plant all those trees before the ground freezes too hard. It would take a large crew of men.

MARY: It seems like a forest ranger's lot is always a race against time, doesn't it?

BESS: I guess that's true. It's certainly a rush job when he's fighting fire. And It's always a fight against time when bugs or disease get into the timber.

MARY: Yes. And Jerry was telling me how fast andhard he and Mr. Robbins have to work to keep enough timber marked ahead of the cutting crews on the timber sale areas. So there'll be no delay in getting out the wood for war.

MARY: Where did the trees come from, Mrs. Hopkins? I understood there was to be almost a complete curtailment of production in the Forest Service nurseries for the duration of the war.

BESS: That's right, Mary. Only a few nurseries will be kept operating but the trees that Jim and Jerry have now were already growing in the nursery.

MARY: I see. They'll either have to plant them now or they'll be wasted.

BESS: That's right. And Jim works so badly to finish planting the Bull Ridge cut-over area. But there's nobody available now to help with the planting, you see, and....

MARY: I know. That's why Mr. Hopkins and Jerry are working so hard trying to get the trees in the ground.

BESS: Yes. They're planting trees every minute they can spare. But the two of them and the few guards we have to help can't begin to plant all those trees before the ground freezes too hard. It would take a large crew of men.

MARY: It seems like a forest ranger's job to always have enough time, doesn't it?

BESS: I guess that's true. It's certainly a rush job when he's fighting fire. And it's always a fight against time when huge or disease get into the timber.

MARY: Yes. And Jerry was telling me how fast mildewed he and Mr. Hopkins have to work to keep enough timber marked ahead of the cutting crews on the timber sale areas. So there'll be no delay in getting out the wood for war.

BESS: And now this planting job. I've never seen Jim so discouraged as he's been lately. He and Jerry will probably be out there tomorrow, too.

MARY: But they'll miss the Armistice Day celebration, Mrs. Robbins.

BESS: I know...But they want to get all the planting done they can.

MARY: There they are now, Mrs. Robbins, just getting home...no, it's only Jerry.....

DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES

JERRY: (DEPRESSED) Hello, Mrs. Robbins. Hello, Mary.

MARY: Hello, Jerry. My, you look tired.

JERRY: I am tired.

BESS: Jerry, where's Jim? Didn't he come home with you?

JERRY: No ma'am. He'll be late. Had to stop by the timber sale area.

BESS: Oh.

MARY: Jerry, sit down. Here, in this chair.

JERRY: Thanks, Mary. (GRUNTS) Boy! This chair sure feels good when a feller's been on his feet; bendin' up and down all day long.

BESS: How is Jim? I guess he must be pretty tired too.

JERRY: Jim's kinda down in the mouth, I'm afraid, Mrs. Robbins.

BESS: Then you didn't get much planting done today, Jerry?

JERRY: Oh, we got a lot of trees in the ground for the two of us. But it's only a drop in the bucket. I hate to think of all the trees we're gonna have to dump because there's nobody to plant 'em.

BESS: And now this planting job. I've never been in no disposition
to be a boss lately. He and Jerry will probably be out there
tomorrow, too.

MARY: But they'll make the Armistice Day celebration, Mrs. Robbins.

BESS: I know...But they want to get all the planting done they can.

MARY: There they are now, Mrs. Robbins. Just getting home...no, it's
only Jerry.....

DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES

JERRY: (EMBARRASSED) Hello, Mrs. Robbins. Hello, Mary.

MARY: Hello, Jerry. Hy, you look tired.

JERRY: I am tired.

BESS: Jerry, where's Jim? Didn't he come home with you?

JERRY: No ma'am. He'll be late. Had to stop by the lumber sale ar-

BESS: Oh.

MARY: Jerry, sit down. Here, in this chair.

JERRY: Thanks, Mary. (GRUMPS) Boy! This chair sure feels good when
a fellow's been on his feet; bendin' up and down all day long.

BESS: How is Jim? I guess he must be pretty tired too.

JERRY: Jim's kinda down in the mouth, I'm afraid, Mrs. Robbins.

BESS: Then you didn't get much planting done today, Jerry?

JERRY: Oh, we got a lot of trees in the ground for the two of us. But
it's only a drop in the bucket. I hate to think of all the
trees we're gonna have to dig because there's nobody to plant
'em.

BESS: Well, maybe tomorrow you can get some more done any way, Jerry. Maybe tomorrow you could get some of the Boy Scouts and 4-H Club members to help, and....

JERRY: Tomorrow the kids'll all be at the Armistice Day celebration.

MARY: Oh dear! Of course. I know the Veterans are planning on the Boy Scouts and the 4-H Club taking part in tomorrow's Armistice Day observance.

BESS: Just the same, it seems to me if they realized how important it is to get those trees planted, they'd.....

JERRY: That's what I told Jim. But he said no. He said seein' as how those kids promised the Veterans, we shouldn't try to get 'em to pass up the celebration.

BESS: Yes, that's Jim all over. But I still think that...

JERRY: I'd say not to even mention it to Jim. Shucks. Me and I will do what we can by ourselves. It's just that...well we did hope we could get <u>most</u> of the trees in the ground, at least.

BESS: (SLOWLY) Armistice Day...I wonder what kind of Armistice celebration we can have this year...with things as they are now in this crazy world.

JERRY: Yeah. It sounds kinda funny right now, doesn't it, Mrs. Robbins.....?

BESS: I wonder why Jim doesn't get here? I don't think we ought to wait supper any longer. It's been ready now for...

PHONE RINGS

JERRY: There's a magic word for you. Supper. Just say supper and nine times outa ten something happens to keep you away from it. (PHONE RINGS) See? Right now it's the doggone telephone.

MARY: Maybe it's Mr. Robbins.

BESS: I'll answer it, Jerry. Stay where you are. (RECEIVER OFF) Hello. This is the Ranger Station...Who?...Oh, yes. How are you?... No, Jim's not here. Shall I have him call you? ...What's that? You want him to make a speech tomorrow?

JERRY: Good gravy! As though Jim didn't have enough on his mind as...

BESS: I'm sorry, Mr. Thompson, but I know Jim has to plant trees tomorrow. I'm afraid he can't do that and speak in town at the same time...What's that you're saying?...(PAUSE)...Oh, that's wonderful...Bless you, Mr. Thompson and, yes, every Veteran and Boy Scout and 4-H youngster in town...I think that's simply grand...Yes, sir...And I'm sure Jim will make a speech under those conditions and be happy to do it...Yes, I'll tell him.....Good-bye!

PHONE RECEIVER ON

MARY: What is it, Mrs. Robbins? Why, you...you're positively beaming.

BESS: I'm happy, that's why. Oh, wait 'til Jim hears about this. That was Frank Thompson on the 'phone. He's heard of the Veterans here, and he told me...

JERRY: Whoopee! They're going to let the kids work with us tomorrow, huh?

BESS: Yes. But that's not all. Listen. Those youngsters figured things all out by themselves and got their Dads...most of them are Veterans, as you know,.....they all agreed to celebrate Armistice Day out there at Bull Ridge tomorrow by planting trees. Now what do you think about that?

MARY: Oh, that's marvelous! With all those boys and the men, too, Jerry, you'll be sure to finish the job.

JERRY: You bet we will....So they're going to scrap the usual doings in favor of planting trees, huh, Mrs. Robbins?

BESS: Mr. Thompson said all the Veterans agreed that Armistice Day this year should bea day of resolve rather than recollection...

JERRY: And resolve means action, huh?

BESS: Yes. He said that when they learned what you and Jim were up against, they felt the best kind of celebration they could have would be by planting trees tomorrow.

JERRY: Gee, that's swell (FADE) Doggone swell.

MUSIC: INTERLUDE

FADE IN CROWD CHATTER, OCCASIONAL CLINK OF METAL

JERRY: That's it, folks. The job's all done. and how! Throw your planting tools right here on this pile. (CLATTER) That's it. Throw 'em here. Thank you....

MARY: (EXCITED) Jerry, this has been the most...the most wonderful day I've ever experienced. Did you see the way those men all pitched in and planted the trees?

JERRY: (CHUCKLING) It was something all right. And didn't the kids get a kick outa showing their Daddies how to plant, though?

MARY: And what about the women folks? Bringing food and hot drinks way up here? Oh, I tell you, they won't forget this in a long time...

JERRY: There'll be plenty of aching backs and sore muscles to remind 'em, I'm thinking. It was swell, though. We got the trees in, all right.

BUGLE SOUNDS ASSEMBLY OFF

JERRY: (WITH IT) That's Assembly call, Mary. See? The folks are all getting together over there. To hear Jim's little speach, I reckon.

MARY: Let's go over, Jerry. I want to stand near Mrs. Robbins.

JERRY: I bet she's proud, huh?

MARY: As proud and happy as I've ever seen her, Jerry. She knew better than you and I could possibly know, how much this planting job meant to Mr. Robbins.

JERRY: Yeah, that's right.

BUILD UP CROWD NOISE GRADUALLY, SUSTAIN

BESS: (THROUGH NOISE) Oh, there you are, you two.

JERRY: Where's Jim, Mrs. Robbins?

MARY: Why, he's standing there in that truck, silly. There up ahead.

JERRY: Sure, I see him. Look, he's raising his hand. Going to make his talk now. (CUE TO N.Y.) (SOTTO) Go to it, Jim. Go to it, feller.

CROWD NOISE SUBSIDES

SWITCH TO NEW YORK TO PICK UP JIM.

JIM: (SLIGHTLY OFF-LOUD AS IN ADDRESSING OUTDOOR CROWD) Friends...

I reckon this has been the most unusual Armistice Day celebration we've had, all of us, since....well ever since there was an Armistice Day. I'm wondering if you don't agree, though, that it's been a good way to observe Armistice Day, 1942?....I don't want to talk long. It's getting late and the sun will be down 'fore long. But I gotta say a few things. There'll be some folks, hearing about what we did today, who'll probably say, "So they planted a lotta little trees. So they helped out the Forest Ranger. So what?" There'll be folks who won't see any more than just another job in what you've done here today, and this is my answer to them...Maybe we're only a small handful of Americans together here on a mountain ridge but, folks, you've shown today how Americans, the country over, can get together with spirit and enthusiasm to get a job done... any job that needs doing. You've gone ahead and done more than talk about high ideals today. You've put ideals into action! This was waste land here, and you've started it back to productivity. And these thousands of trees you've planted. Whether it's realized or not, these trees like all our forests are part of the foundation for future American security and strength...If you want to look at it another way, we can consider these trees as living monuments, if you please, not only to the memory of our friends and relatives who died in the last war, but, even more, to their spirit that will never die.....the same spirit that inspires our friends and relatives who are carrying on the fighting now, today! So, friends, anybody'd be badly mistaken to think that all we did today was plant some trees.

(MORE)

JIM CONTD: We've planted for a better future...I just hope you're all as proud as I am. You've worked and sweated to mighty good purpose, believe me! And now, with the sun sinking there in the west, over old Bald Top Mountain, we're goin' to put a proper end to our Armistice observance. In keeping with the spirit you've shown here today, we've decided that we're not going to have our bugler end this occasion with the call that's usually heard on Armistice Day...No, sir! This isn't the time for playing "Taps".....(BUILDING UP) We're not recollecting today. Like Frank Thompson says...we're Resolving. This isn't an end...It's the beginning...Go ahead, Tom. Blow that bugle. Blow the "Charge"call. Loud and strong! That's our Armistice call this year...to all Americans! Charge!!!!

CUE TO RETURN

(SWITCH TO CHICAGO)

BUGLER: "CHARGE" CALL, REPEAT

CROWD APPLAUDS THRU CALL

MUSICAL FINALE

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week during the National Farm and Home Hour as a network presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture....

mk 10:15 AM
11/10/42

TIM CONTD: We've planned for a better future...I just hope you're all as proud as I am. You've worked and sweated to mighty good purpose, believe me! And now, with the sun sinking there in the west, over old Back Tock Mountain, we're goin' to put a proper end to our Armistice observance. In keeping with the spirit you've shown here today, we've decided that we're not going to have our bugler end this occasion with the call that's usually heard on Armistice Day...No, sir! This isn't the time for playing "Taps"....(BUILDING UP) We're not recollecting today. Like Frank Thompson says...we're Regulars. This isn't an end...It's the beginning...Go ahead, Tom. Blow that bugle, Blow the "Charge"call. Loud and strong! That's our Armistice call this year...to all Americans! Charge!!!!.

CUE TO RETURN

(SWITCH TO CHICAGO)

BUGLER: "CHARGE" CALL, REPEAT

CHORD APPLAUDS THRU GAIL,

MUSICAL FINALE

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers come to you each week during the National Farm and Home Hour as a network presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture....

mk 10:15 AM
11/10/42